

GODZILLA™

MARVEL® COMICS GROUP



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NOW
IN COMICS
FORM!

FROM TOHO PRODUCTIONS'
FAMED MOVIE SERIES

FIRST
FANTASTIC
ISSUE!

GODZILLA

KING OF THE MONSTERS™

LOOK
OUT, AMERICA!
THE MIGHTIEST
MENACE OF
THEM ALL IS
COMING YOUR
WAY!



Stan Lee
PRESENTS:
TOHO CO., LTD.'S

GODZILLA

THE COMING!

ALASKA! THE MILDEST
WINTER IN 200 YEARS GIVES
WAY TO AN EVEN **WARMER**
SPRING—PERHAPS EXPLAINING
WHY A HUGE **ICEBERG**
SUDDENLY **DISINTEGRATES**,
RELEASING A MOST UNWILLING
PRISONER.

THEN AGAIN, PERHAPS
THE MASSIVE FLOE
HAS BEEN **SHATTERED**
FROM WITHIN...

...BUT WHATEVER THE REASON,
THE CLIMATE ON THE
WESTERN COAST OF THE
NATION'S 50TH STATE...
NOW GETS EVEN **WARMER**.

LORD! THE
SUPPLY SHIP...
CAPSIZED—
SMASHED—BY
A...A **MONSTER!**

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IT'S IMPOSSIBLE--UNBELIEVABLE!
BUT I...I SAW IT WITH MY
OWN EYES!

THE THING
WAS GIANTIC--
LIKE A
DINOSAUR OR
SOMETHING!

MAYBE IT'S BEEN
FROZEN IN THAT CAKE OF
ICE FOR MILLIONS OF
YEARS--IN SOME SORT
OF SUSPENDED
ANIMATION...



BUT THE ANSWERS AREN'T
IMPORTANT NOW! THE
THINGS ALIVE AND THAT'S
ALL THAT MATTERS! GOT
TO REACH A PHONE AND
GET HELP...AT LEAST
GIVE A WARNING
BEFORE--

MRRRAWW



Oh
no...



IT'S SEEN ME--FOLLOWING
ME--I'VE GOT TO REACH THE
LIGHTHOUSE...!

LET ME REACH IT...
PLEASE LORD--
PLEASE!



SOMETIMES, IT
SEEMS PLAYERS
ARE ANSWERED.

MRRRAWW

PANTING, HIS HEART POUNDING, THE TERRIFIED
KEEPER BOLTS INTO THE ONLY AVAILABLE REFUGE
ALONG THE BARREN SHORELINE... HIS HOME.



BUT IT DOES HIM VERY LITTLE GOOD.

FOR THE ALMOST LEGENDARY
TIME-LOST LEVIATHAN KNOWN
AS GODZILLA... HAS
JUST ARRIVED IN NORTH
AMERICA.

WITH A
MESSAGE.

LONG MINUTES PASS. ALL LOST IN CONFUSION. THEN, WHEN THE DAZED KEEPER HAS FINALLY GATHERED THE PIECES OF HIS MIND...

OPERATOR-- ANSWER ME-- PLEASE, OPERATOR... SOMEBODY!

IT'S NO... NO USE. THE LINE IS... DEAD...

SEVERAL MILES INLAND, THERE LIES ANOTHER LINE-- THE CELEBRATED ALASKAN PIPELINE, AN ALMOST INTERMINABLE MELLOW STEEL SERPENT WHOSE LIFEBLOOD IS THE BLACK MAGIC CALLED OIL...

...PRECIOUS OIL TO FEED THE STARVING CARS AND FURNACES OF AMERICA.

BUT AT THE MOMENT IN THE MAJOR PIPELINE TERMINAL THE FORTUNES AND PHENOMENA OF OIL ARE ALL BUT FORGOTTEN...

YES, LOOK.

IN THE FACE OF SUCH PRIMORDIALLY INSPIRING POWER WHAT ELSE CAN ONE DO--?

IT HAPPENS QUICKLY, AS IN THE WORST OF NIGHTMARES, THE VISION OF THE INCREDIBLE BEASTHOOD HAS SCARCELY BEEN ABSORBED--

SKRAK

--BEFORE THE SHOCK OF HIS BERSERK FURY DEMANDS TO BE FELT.

TOUGHLY COMPETENT, ABLE-BODIED ALIEN ARE HELPLESS IN THE MIST OF SUCH RANDOM HAVOC--
REDUCED TO NO MORE THAN TINY FIGURES OF
SCURRYING PANIC.



LESS THAN THREE MINUTES HAVE ELAPSED SINCE THE FIRST SIGHTING.

THE ENCAMPMENT IS ALREADY WRAPPED IN FULL-SCALE DISASTER.

LOOK OUT! THE THING'S GRABBIN' THE LINE!!

THE STEEL SERPENT'S GLEAMING BODY SWAPS AND BARTS SPRAYING DARK ICNOR...

ROKT

HE'S RIPPIN' UP A WHOLE SECTION OF THE PIPE!!

AND ANOTHER LINE... DIES.

AS FAR AS THIS MAMMOTH MONSTER IS CONCERNED, THE VAMPIRIC THIRST OF AMERICA WILL JUST HAVE TO WAIT.

FHRAM!

I... I DON'T BELIEVE IT! HE'S USING TONS OF STEEL PIPE LIKE A... A WHIP--AS IF IT WEIGHED NOTHING!

WE'VE GOT TO ABANDON THE TERMINAL--! THERE'S NO TELLING WHEN HELP'LL ARRIVE--OR EVEN IF ANY HELP IS ON THE WAY!!

BUT HELP IS ON THE WAY--SUMMONED BY THE FRANTIC CREW OF A CERTAIN CAPSIZED SUPPLY SHIP...



YEAH, WE GOT A SECOND FIX NOW--ON A RADIO SIGNAL TRANSMITTED FROM SOME DYING LINE STATION COUPLA MILES FROM THE FIRST CALL...

AND THE HELP IS FORMIDABLE INDEED--THE FULLY ARMED AND EQUIPPED S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICOPTER COMMANDER BY AGENT DUM-DUM DUGAN...



WE'RE MORE'N HALFWAY ACROSS ALASKA--SHOULDN'T TAKE US MUCH LONGER...

...BUT IF YOU WANT WE CAN HAUL UP AND WAIT FOR YA, NICK.

*SUPREMACY HEADQUARTERS INTERNATIONAL ESPIONAGE LAW-ENFORCEMENT DIVISION. --ACRONYMING ARCH.

NOW, KEEP YER TAIL BURNIN' DUGAN, AN TRY TO STOP THAT ATTACK--I'LL CATCH UP SOON ENOUGH--CUTTIN' THE LINE BETWEEN MONTANA AND CANADA NOW.

I GOT THREE PEOPLE HERE WITH GOVERNMENT CLEARANCE--FROM THE PENTAGON AND THE WHITE HOUSE--WHICH MEANS IMPORTANT.



THEY CLAIM THEY GOT A LINE ON THIS BIG GREEN BABY--CAN MAYBE HELP US PUT 'IM BACK TO SLEEP.

CATCH YA LATER WITH THE DETAILS DUGAN--AN' DON'T YOU AN' WOO TAKE NO WOODEN MONSTERS.



THIS, PERSONALLY PILOTED BY COL. NICK FURY--HARD-BITTEN DIRECTOR OF S.H.I.E.L.D.--THE EXPERIMENTAL V-TOL FIGHTER ESCORT STREAKS ONWARD...

*VERTICAL TAKE-OFF AND LANDING. --ARCH AGAIN.

...AS THE ENORMOUS HELICOPTER ATTAINS ITS OBJECTIVE...



AWRIGHT, WOO, WE MADE IT TO THE BALLPARK... NOW LET'S SEE IF WE CAN'T BLAST THIS OVERGROWN GILA MONSTER OUTTA THE GAME IN THE FIRST INNING...

ALL UNITS--THIS IS DUGAN SO CLEAN YER EARS. WE'RE GONNA TAKE THIS ONE AND TAKE IT GOOD. I DON'T WANT ANY MISTAKES AND FEWER EXCUSES!



NOW... ATTACK!!

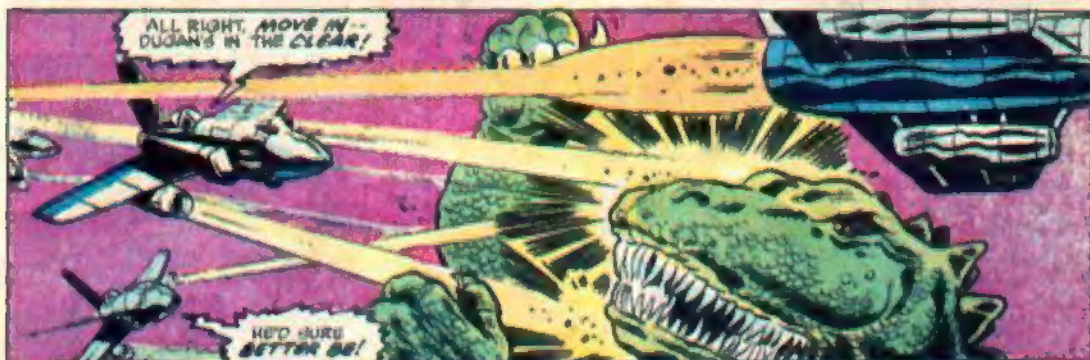
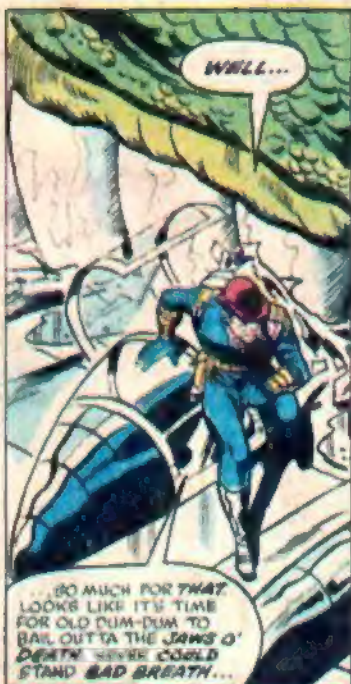
THE RESPONSE IS IMMEDIATE: WITH CLOCK-
WORK PRECISION, AN ENTIRE SMALL ARMY
IS DEPLOYED FROM THE HOVERING COMMAND
CENTER, EACH MAN A VITAL PART OF THE
SAME WELL-OILED MACHINE...

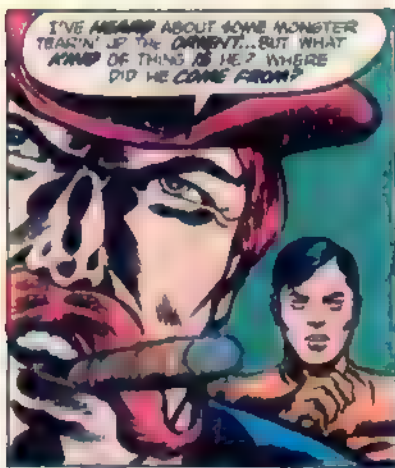
I JUST
LOOKED DOWN,
AGENT L. DO
YOUR EYES
CONFIRM
MINE?

AFFIRMATIVE,
AGENT R.

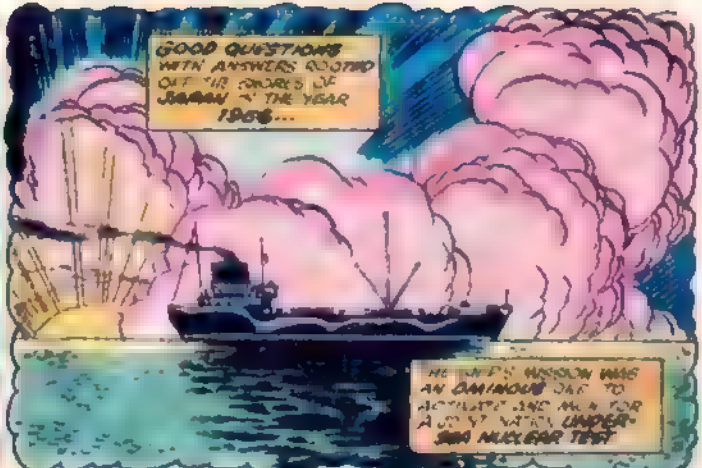
BUT I WAS
MOROSE. I NEEDED
A NEW VISION.







I'VE HEARD ABOUT SOME MONSTER
TRAIN' UP THE OCEAN...BUT WHAT
KIND OF THING IS HE? WHERE
DID HE COME FROM?



GOOD QUESTIONS
WITH ANSWERS ROOTED
OUT "IN COASTS OF
JAPAN" IN THE YEAR
1966...

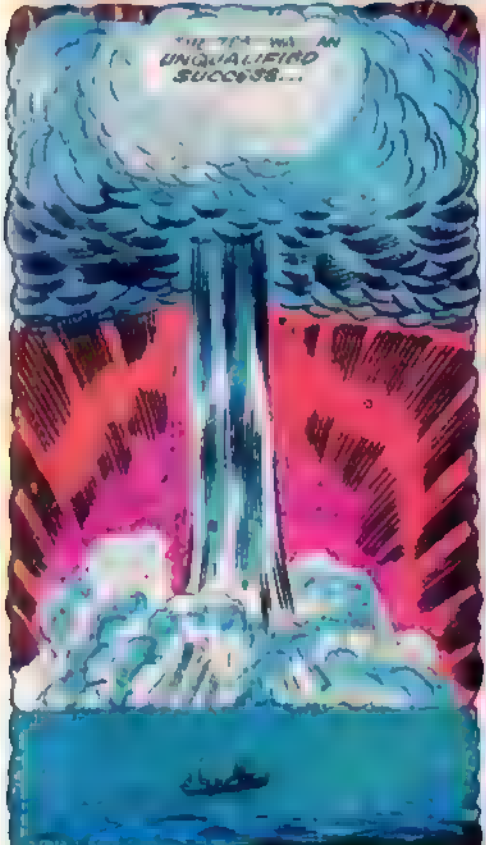
HE HAD A MISSION WAS
AN OMINOUS JAP TO
ACTIVATE AND MIA FOR
A JAPY NATION UNDER
SUN NUCLEAR TEST



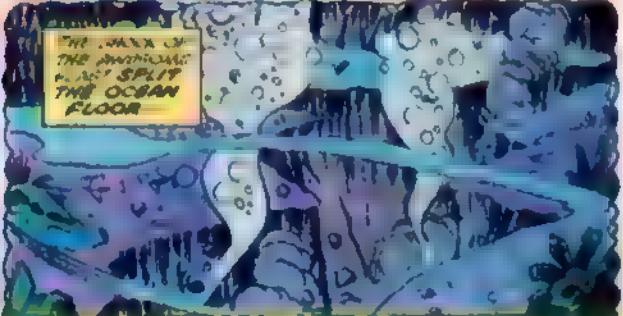
AMONG THE MANY SCIENTISTS WHO HAD LABORED LONG
AND HARD ON THE MONUMENTAL PROJECT THERE WAS A
SINGLE DISSENTING VOICE: DR. YOUNG THORNTON
AND HE FEARED THE REPERCUSSIONS OF AN UNDESIRABLE TEST

...THREE
TWO ONE...
FIRE!

BUT HE WAS OUTVOTED
AND SO REMAINED IN
THE MIA...AND AN
UNWILLING
PARTICIPANT.



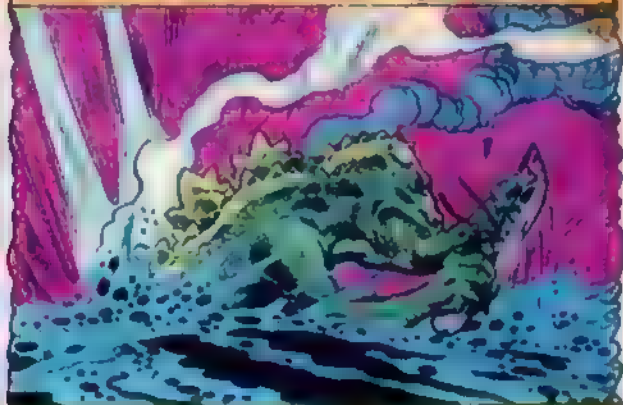
THE TEST WAS AN
UNQUALIFIED
SUCCESS...



THE WAVE OF
THE AMPHIBIOUS
PLANT SPLIT
THE OCEAN
FLOOR

AND TERMINATED AN EPOCH-OLD SLUMBER AT THE
BOTTOM OF THAT NEW CREVICE

THERE WAS AN AMPHIBIOUS FORM REBORN A PRESENT
HYBRID OF LAND AND WATER REPTILES. THE CREATURE
CAME TO BE CALLED... **GODILLA.**



HIS FIRST VICTIMS: THE VERY ONES WHO HAD AWAKENED
HIM AFTER 50 MILLIONS OF YEARS OF SLEEP

MORE SO, UNFORTUNATELY THAN ANYONE
COULD HAVE IMAGINED.

FATE IS OFTEN IRONICALLY
GENTLE TO THE LONN

SO IT WAS THAT DR. THAT-
GUEW! HOLE PRESENTER
WAS ALSO SOLE SURVIVOR
OF THE BENEMOTH'S
INITIAL ATTACK.

AND IT WAS HE WHO
RECOVERED FROM THE COUNTRY-
FROM THE SCATTERED REMAINS
OF GODZILLA'S FORMER

STILL THE ISLAND OF JAPAN
BROUGHT ABOUT A SENSE OF
THE MONSTER SOON KNOWN
FOR GODZILLA LOST LITTLE
TIME IN LAUNCHING TWO
WAVES OF WHOLESALE
DESTRUCTION.

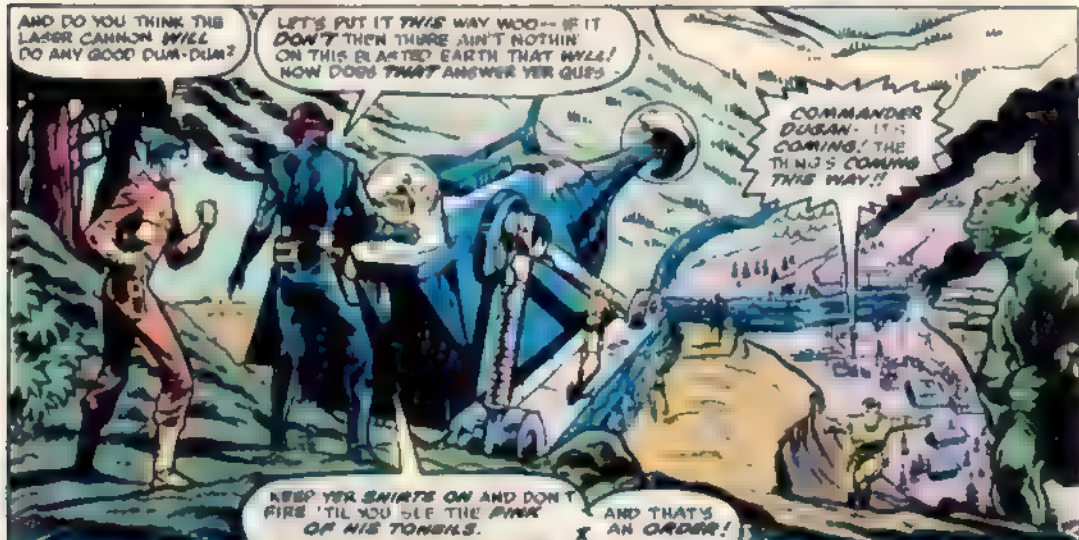
HIS AGONY AND LAMENT FOR
VIOLENCE REMAINED BOUNDLESS
AS THE CITY AND VILLAGES
OF JAPAN FROM NAGASAKI TO
TOKYO AND BEYOND TO
MONTAGNO WERE SMASHED
TIME AND AGAIN AND
MOUNTED BY THE GERM SYSTEM
OF NUCLEAR EVIL.

QUARTY NOW AND WERE DEVILS... THEY
LEFT THE REGION OF JAPAN - NOW HE
BECAME FROZEN IN A BLOCK OF ICE AND
JET MATHY REACHED THE SHORES OF
NORTH AMERICA IS UNKNOWN AT
THIS POINT BUT WILL DEFINITELY BE
DETERMINED IN THE FUTURE.

RIGHT NOW HOWEVER,
THERE ARE MORE URGENT
MATTERS AT HAND.

SWING THE
BLASTED THING
AROUND XXXI
SPACE-AGE
TURKEYS!

IT'S GOTTA BE
POINTED AT IM IF
IT'S GONNA DO ANY
GOOD!



AND DO YOU THINK THE
LASER CANNON WILL
DO ANY GOOD DUM-DUM?

LET'S PUT IT THIS WAY WOO-- IF IT
DON'T THEN THERE AIN'T NOthin'
ON THIS BASTED EARTH THAT WILL!
NOW DOES THAT ANSWER YER GUES?

COMMANDER
DUBAN- IT'S
COMING! THE
THING'S COMING
THIS WAY!!

KEEP YER SHIRTS ON AND DON'T
FIRE 'TIL YOU SEE THE PINK
OF HIS TONGUE.

AND THAT'S
AN ORDER!

MEANWHILE SWIMMING
THE TROPICS OF
CANADA'S NORTH-
WESTERN FORESTS...



--NICK FURY PULLS OUT
ALL THE STOPS TO
DELIVER HIS MOST
PRECIOUS CARGO...

...A CARGO OF HUMAN RESOURCES

ONLY HOPE WE WILL BE
IN TIME TAWARA FOR
THIS CREATURE MUST
BE GODZILLA AFTER
HIS DISAPPEARANCE
FROM OUR COUNTRY
IT COULD BE NO
OTHER

YES IT
WOULD BE
A GREAT
TRAGEDY
WERE MORE
LIVES TO
BE LOST
BEFORE
WE.



WHAT ABOUT GODZILLA'S LIFE?
THE AMERICANS WILL PROBABLY
TRY TO KILL HIM WITHOUT
THINKING-- WITHOUT TRYING
TO UNDERSTAND

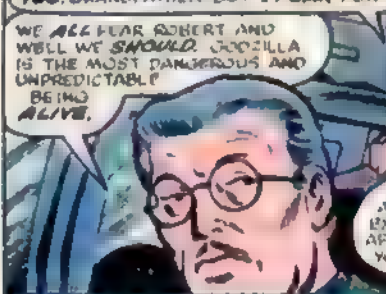
THAT IS
ENOUGH
ROBERT



COLONEL FURY MIGHT
HEAR YOU AND
MISUNDERSTAND

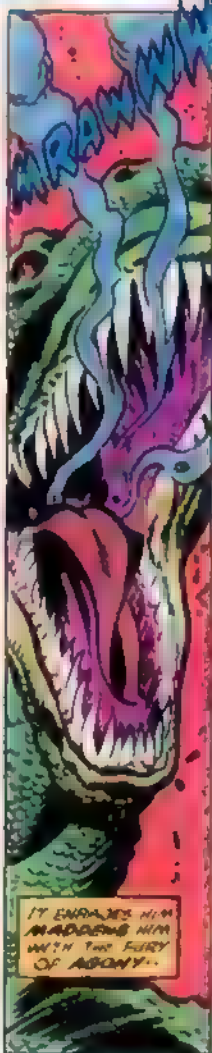
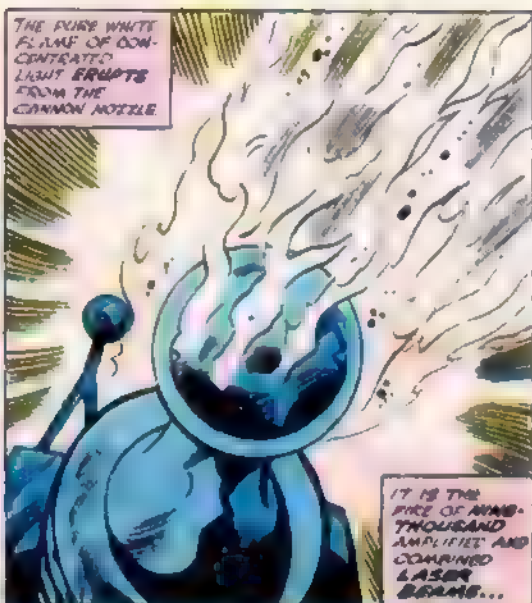
YES, GRANDFATHER BUT I FEAR FOR--

WE ALL FEAR ROBERT AND
WELL WE SHOULD. GODZILLA
IS THE MOST DANGEROUS AND
UNPREDICTABLE
BEING
ALIVE.



YES EVEN I
AM BEGINNING TO
EXPERIENCE DOUBTS
AFTER ALL THE TIME AS
YOUR ASSISTANT..

I CAN ONLY
HOPE THAT I AM
WRONG AND THAT
OUR PLAN WILL
SUCCEED
DR TANIGUCHI





I DON'T BELIEVE IT, THAT BIG GUN WAS THE BEST PIECE OF WEAPONRY TONY STARK HAS TURNED OUT AND HE JUST BUSTED IT TO SHRAPNELS...

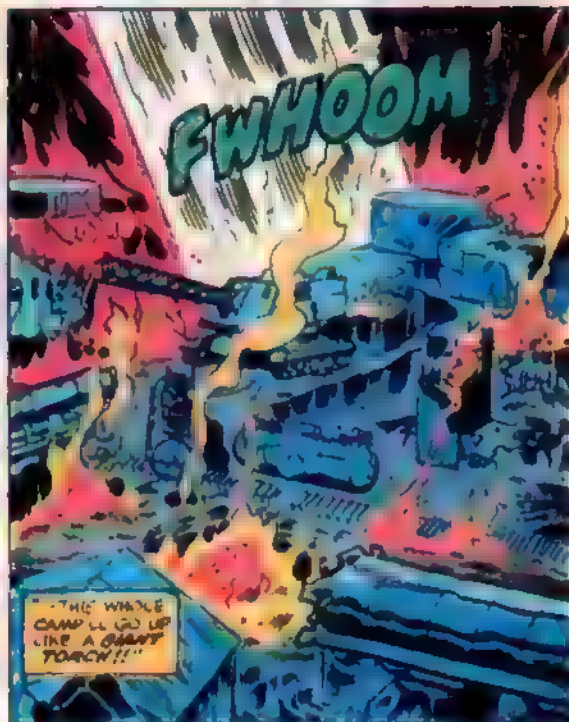
IT'S WORSE THAN THAT DUM-DUM-- THE PAIN HAS MADDENED THE CREATURE DRIVEN HIM berserk



"THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT HE'LL DO NOW..."

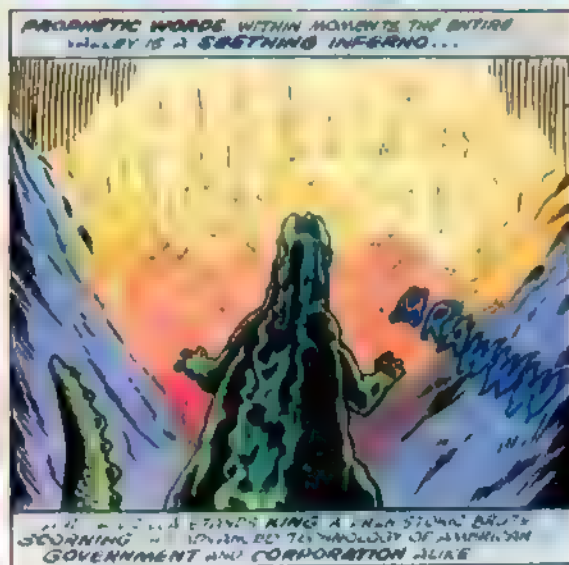
HRAAHH

LOOK OUT! IF HIS FIRE-BREATH TOUCHES THE SPILLED OIL--



FWHOOM

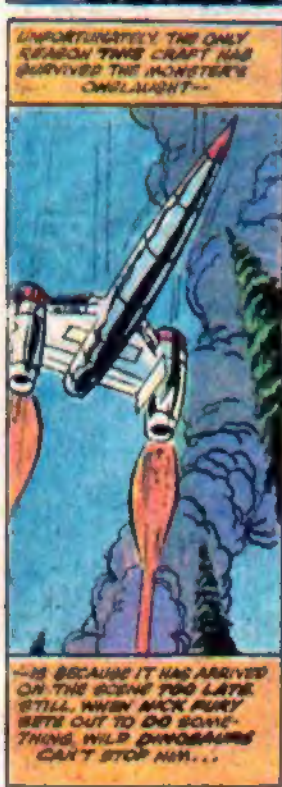
"THE WHOLE CAMP LL GO UP LIKE A GIANT TORCH!!"



PARANETIC WORDS WITHIN MOMENTS THE ENTIRE CAMP IS A SEETHING INFERNO...

...AND IN FINDING A FEAR STARK DOES SCORNING -- UPON BY THE HANDS OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND CORPORATION ALIKE







GODZILLA-GRAMS

1/6 MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 575 MADISON AVE. N.Y.C. 10022



Welcome to the first issue of GODZILLA.

You wouldn't think a skyscraper-size hybrid dinosaur with radiation-blast breath would have trouble getting anywhere, but it's taken almost five years for the great green one to finally get into a Marvel Comic.

Back in the early '60s of this fast-disappearing decade, Marvel's then editor-in-chief, Rascally Roy Thomas (who, as writer/editor, is still masterminding some of our most popular titles such as CONAN THE BARBARIAN, THE INVADERS and TARZAN), first began trying to acquire the rights to do the adventures of the most popular movie monster since King Kong. Legal difficulties prevented this from coming about at the time, but Bullpenners are a stubborn lot, and with the constant urging of our publisher and leading light, Stan (The Man) Lee, Marvel kept trying. I was the guy who finally got lucky. Toho Company Ltd. was ready to do a GODZILLA comic at the time I approached them about the possibility.

Once we had the rights, the big question was how to handle the character. What works in a series of movies appearing a year or more apart can also become monotonous in a comic book coming at you every month. So, for the sake of variety and continuity, we opted for new adventures rather than adaptations of the films. And for the same reason, we also chose to connect the big G with the Marvel universe. This takes a bit of stretching, but Marvel's world, while as fragile as any imaginative creation, is also amazingly flexible. As the series progresses, we think you'll see the advantages in this. Not that we intend to have Godzillas slugging it out with a different super-hero or villain every issue... far from it! This connection with Marvel's vast cast of characters (with the exception of SHIELD agents Dugan and Woo, who *will* be

regulars) is going to be used sparingly, but at logical times—or moments when we think we can really surprise you—some of the swashbuckling stars of our other books are going to be popping up. In between those times, you can look forward to some of the monster-against-monster free-for-alls that highlight the Godzilla films, as well as some totally off-beat ideas and themes guaranteed to keep you guessing.

Another problem in bringing the lively lizard to the comics was how to present him visually. Movie buffs will recognize that Godzilla's appearance varied somewhat, from film to film as he worked his way through twenty years of starring roles. Since our approach is somewhat less tongue-in-cheek than the current films, we decided to use a variation on the Godzilla portrayed in the very first movie. The liberties we've taken are, again, an effort to adjust what works in a motion picture into an equally successful comics character. Different mediums require different approaches. While some Godzilla purists may object, we think most of you will come to know and love this version of the devastating dinosaur.

Naturally, the final opinion in such weighty matters rests with you, and we're anxiously waiting to hear your verdict. In the future, we'll be using this space for a letters column. So don't wait, whether you've got gripes or good tidings, let us know. Writer Doug Moench and artist Herb Trimpe have labored long and hard getting this issue to you. I'm pleased with what they've done, but we won't be really happy until we hear from you.

Thanks,

Achie Goodwin, editor

